

which is the field of reporting on business as legitimate news, and the field of interpreting economic events as a matter of genuine public information. Rowen understood that economics is an academic field, but he also understood that economic events have enormous public importance, and need to be reported as issues of basic public concern.

Hobart Rowen started as a copy boy at the Journal of Commerce, but soon became a reporter assigned to commodities. With the outbreak of World War II he was sent to Washington to cover defense expansion and how business responded to war mobilization. He served two years with the War Production Board, and in 1944 went to Newsweek magazine. Ben Bradlee, the famed editor of the Washington Post, was also at Newsweek, and eventually, as editor of the newspaper, brought Rowen in to become financial editor.

At the Post, Rowen supervised the paper's Sunday business section and expanded the daily business coverage, bringing that page into the real world of reporting and making its impact important to the community and to the nation's understanding of economics, economic policy and business regulation. At Newsweek, Rowen had done a widely admired column on business trends and economic issues, and he continued that work at the Post. Rowen understood the basic economic changes that were taking place, and how those would play out. He understood—and was the first to report—the forces that led to the closing of the gold window, which was the end of the Bretton Woods monetary arrangement, and that the dollar would be devalued. He understood—and was the first to report—the bungled economic policies that led to wage and price controls. And he understood the futility of palliatives like those controls, that basic economic issues must be addressed with realistic policies. This was not happening, and so he lamented how unrealistic policies were leading the nation toward “slow but steady self-strangulation.”

And how right he was. Mr. Rowen foresaw the events that so discomfit us today: the slow fall in real income, the slow poisoning of the dollar resulting from a seemingly intractable trade deficit, the folly and virtual insanity of the Reagan era fiscal policy, and much else. Hobart Rowen was, in the words of Ben Bradlee, “the first economics reporter of his generation who could go to a press conference about economics and know more than the guy who gave it.” Hobart Rowen, largely the inventor of his craft, certainly did know his beat; he was a sure analyst, a fine craftsman and a first-rate reporter. His achievements earned a long list of awards, probably more than any other reporter in his field.

I am an admirer of Hobart Rowen's work, and an admirer of him as a decent, honorable, thoughtful human being. He made immense contributions to the country, through the diligent and thoughtful exercise of a craft that truly was his own. I applaud his life and salute his achievements. His voice will be sorely missed.

[From the Washington Post, Apr. 14, 1995]

HOBART ROWEN

“Good writing on economic subjects need not be dull,” Hobart Rowen once wrote shortly after he joined the staff of this newspaper, and he spent the next three decades daily illustrating the truth of that declaration. He represented a major development in the history of The Post, and of American

journalism generally, for he was among the first reporters capable of explaining modern economics to lay readers and illuminating for them the intellectual concepts that were driving public policy.

In a time when daily financial reporting tended heavily toward the ups and downs of the stock market, Mr. Rowen wrote about the world and the international forces that were affecting jobs and incomes here. That was doubly unusual because, in the 1960s, international economics was widely regarded in this country even among professional economists as a marginal subject. The United States dominated the world economy and, the conventional wisdom held, the rest was a minor specialty. That was true enough for the first 20 years or so after World War II, but then that domination began to erode and, as the country discovered in the inflationary 1970s, policy suddenly became much more complex.

As a reporter, Mr. Rowen scored many coups. In the spring of 1967, for example, he earned the memorable hostility of the Johnson administration by quoting the warnings of a “high government official”—later identified as the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board—that the costs of the Vietnam War were going to rise far higher than the president's current estimates. As Mr. Rowen knew, and as later events showed, those warnings were more than adequately justified.

But his real contribution lay less in even the best of the good stories and columns, taken one by one, than in the way he redefined the job of reporting the news of economics and finance. He stood at the junction of economic theory and Washington politics, and with sophistication an energy devoted himself to the job of explaining to readers what was going on. He found that job absorbing, and he kept working at it until his death yesterday at the age of 76.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO PARTICIPATE IN FOLK DANCING FOR SELF-EXPRESSION AND ENTERTAINMENT, AND IN PARTICULAR, THOSE OF THE CENTRAL VALLEY SQUARE DANCE CLUB OF FARMINGTON, CT

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Central Valley Square Dance Club of Farmington, CT, on the occasion of its 25th anniversary celebration. The club's appreciation of square dancing, both historically and practically, are worthy of distinction.

The Central Valley Squares sponsor dances twice a month from September until June and encourage all dancers, young and old, to participate in a truly noteworthy cultural experience. This wholesome activity transcends age, race, and cultural lines and is deeply rooted in the American experience.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Central Valley Squares on this accomplishment and join the people of Connecticut in looking forward to their continued success. I am pleased to provide a recent article from the Bristol, CT, Press that describes the Squares activities in greater detail.

[From the Bristol (CT) Press, Apr. 25, 1995]

DANCERS TO CELEBRATE 25 YEARS

Central Valley Squares is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Twenty-five years ago three struggling clubs: Bristol Rhythm Squares, Southington Valley Stompers and Farmington Valley Squares, joined to form the present Central Valley Squares.

The club boasts 110 members with 13 of them as charter members. Club festivities and a special anniversary dance are planned for May 6 at New Horizons Village, Farmington. Internationally known caller, Jim Lee from Ontario, Canada, will call for this special event.

The officers and board members consist of Dan and Shirley Lodovico of Bristol as president; Dick and Lucy Tedesco of Bristol as vice president; Fran and Goldie St. Pierre of Farmington, program coordinators; Al and Beverly Dakers of Farmington, secretary; Ken and Andrea DeMello of Southington, news and corresponding secretary; and Bob and Libby Sujecki of Bristol, treasurer.

Bill and Jessie Saxton of Farmington, ways and means; Tony and Florence D'Angelo of New Britain special events; Hank and John Fitzgerald of Bristol, refreshments; Marcel and Noella Roberge of New Britain, class coordinators; and Joanne and Earl LaVallee of Bristol, travel.

Alan and Anne Bartlett of Bristol, publicity; Arleen Wilson of Bristol, historian; Norman and Pat Landry of Plainville, CASDAC; and John and Mary Napier of New Britain, advertisements.

The plus level dance club dances every first and third Saturday of the month at New Horizons Village, Farmington. New dancers classes begin every September with graduation in May.

Dances are \$3.50 per person and are smoke-free and alcohol free. Callers and cuers are nationally and internationally known.

A CENTURY OF CARING, MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH—CASCADES BAPTIST CHURCH 1895-1995

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on May 7, Cascades Baptist Church will be celebrating its centennial with special services and an open house during the afternoon. The church, originally called Memorial Baptist, was founded in 1895 as a mission work of First Baptist Church in Jackson. The church changed its name in 1959 when it moved to its present location at Bowen and High Streets. Now, one hundred years after its founding, Cascades Baptist is taking a look back over one hundred years of service within the community.

The roots of the church really go back as far as 1882, when a Sunday School was begun in the Griswold Park School by a member of the First Baptist Church. In May of 1882, it was formally made a mission of First Baptist Church under then Pastor L. Kirtley. It was called the Summitville Mission first, then the Butterfield Mission in memoray of Rev. Isaac Butterfield of First Baptist. In 1892, a weekly prayer meeting and Sunday afternoon preaching service began, and in 1895, the cornerstone was laid for the new building on a lot next to the school, right on the northwest corner of Griswold and Third Street. This ceremony was the second of the day for the First